(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes sir.

(b) The Report on Conditions of Work and Promotion of Livelihoods in the Unorganised Sector by the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (August, 2007) on page 1 (para 1.3) states "At the end of 2004-05, about 836 million or 77 per cent of the population were living below Rs.20 per day and constituted most of India's informal economy".

(c) The Report is under examination by the Government.

(d) Yes, for the people of the above said class it is difficult to make both ends meet as a result of continuous rise in the prices of items of day-to-day use in the country.

(e) The Government is already implementing the schemes/programmes like National Rural Employment Generation Programme for providing at least 100 days' work for the people in rural areas and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana for urban poor to enable them to earn their livelihood by development/upgradation of skills. As per the Approach Paper for the Eleventh Plan, 70 million job opportunities are proposed to be created during the Eleventh Plan period.

Capital investment for agriculture

†1924. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have estimated the requirement of additional capital investment in order to achieve the target of 4 per cent annual growth rate in the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the estimate of this capital requirement;

(c) whether any suggestions have been made to make agriculture sector more lucrative in order to encourage this capital investment in the agriculture sector; and

(d) if so, the details of these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The Approach Paper for the Eleventh Five Year Plan titled "Towards Faster and More Inclusive Growth – An Approach to the Eleventh Five Year Plan" in paragraph 3.2.38 has stated that "Overall agricultural investment would need to be about 16% of agricultural GDP, with public investment contributing 4 to 5%, during the Eleventh Plan". As per the latest figures available, Gross Capital Formation for the year 2005-06 (Quick Estimate at 1999-2000 prices) in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector was Rs. 64,131 crores, which was 12.5% of the GDP of Rs.5,12,147 crores for the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The suggestions to make agriculture sector more lucrative in order to encourage capital investment in agriculture sector include ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers, developing appropriate technology to increase yields and reduce cost of cultivation, promoting private-public-partnership, removing restrictions and regulations on private sector participation in setting up marketing and post-harvest infrastructure, allowing alternative marketing channels such as contract farming etc.

Pending proposals of Karnataka

1925. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the various proposals of Karnataka pending with the Union Government;

(b) the reasons for the proposals not getting Union Government's clearance;

(c) since when the proposals are pending; and

(d) by when Union Government plan to clear the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir. There are no proposals of Karnataka pending with the Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Current poverty line

1926. SHRI S.K. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the poverty line in terms of per capita income, which is currently being used by the Planning Commission; and

(b) the figures of poverty, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The poverty line currently being used by the Planning Commission is based on per capita consumption expenditure and not on per capita income. The per capita consumption norm has been fixed at Rs.49.09 per month in the rural areas and Rs.56.64 per month in the urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in the rural areas and 2100 kcal in the urban areas. The state-specific poverty lines are derived from the national level poverty lines, using state-specific price indices and inter-state price differentials. The national poverty line at 2004-05 prices is Rs. 356.30 per capita per month in the rural areas and Rs. 538.60 per capita per month in the urban areas. The State-wise poverty lines are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The Planning Commission estimates state-wise poverty from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years following the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on